

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY XCEL )</b>	<b>ORDER APPROVING 2002</b>
<b>ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2002 )</b>	<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL )</b>	<b>ANNUAL REPORT AND 2003</b>
<b>REPORT AND 2003 ECONOMIC )</b>	<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>
<b>DEVELOPMENT PLAN )</b>	<b>PLAN</b>
<b>)</b>	<b>EL03-027</b>

On October 6, 2003, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received Xcel Energy's (Xcel) 2002 Economic Development Annual Report and proposed Economic Development Plan for 2003. The proposed plan was filed in accordance with the settlement agreements reached between NSP and Commission Staff, and approved by the Commission, in the company's most recent rate case filings, Dockets EL91-004 and EL92-016.

For 2003, Xcel's proposed economic development investment budget is \$100,000. The actual expenditures for the 2002 Economic Development Plan were \$100,000. Fifty percent of the 2003 budget would be recovered through rates, with the remaining 50% funded by shareholders.

At its regularly scheduled December 2, 2003, meeting, the Commission reviewed Xcel's 2002 Economic Development Annual Report and Economic Development Plan for 2003. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, SDCL 49-34A-4 and 49-34A-6. After review of the report and plan, the Commission found that they are just and reasonable and voted to approve them. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Xcel's 2002 Economic Development Annual Report and Economic Development Plan for 2003 are approved as filed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of December, 2003.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

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GARY HANSON, Commissioner

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JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner